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hoped they will turn out better than was expected, although the quality is not likely to be as good as if they had been set earlier.

The prices of grain have rather advanced since last month; oatmeal is also looking up, and potatoes have for some time past been selling considerably higher than is usual at this time of the year.

A letter from Limerick states, that "the crop of wheat and barley in this quarter, appear to be pretty abundant, and saved in good order. Oats, we believe, are not so productive as usual. We hear no material complaint of the potatoes. Wheat and barley are buying up for Portugal, and the latter for distillation, at high prices:—the former is this day (the 26th,) 2s. 2d. to 2s. 3½d. per stone, and the latter 16½d.;—the supply very large. Oats have come in very sparingly, and have got up to 1s. per stone. Price of new oat-meal cannot be quoted, till the millers lay in a stock of oats."

Of the state of the harvest in Great Britain, we have the following account from our correspondents in Liverpool:

"Since our last Circular, the information which we have received respecting the produce of the harvest, has been rather of a more unfavourable description, although many are still inclined to hope, that the deficiency in the whole kingdom will not be found, when taken collectively, to be very material. In Essex, Kent, Norfolk, and Suffolk, the crops having suffered by mildew, are light, and in several of the other counties they have been injured by the same cause, though not to an equal extent. In Staffordshire, Shropshire, and Cheshire, it is, however, generally thought, that the produce, in quantity and quality, will be equal to that of the last year. The crop of Barley is short, and the quality inferior. There is a partial failure in Oats, but this may, in some degree, be compensated by the increased quantity which was sown. Our advices from Scotland also lead us to believe that both Wheat and Barley will be sensibly short of an average growth, but Oats, it was understood, would be a tolerably fair crop. We may, however, observe, that the harvest in the northern parts of the kingdom has generally been secured in very excellent condition, owing to the unusually fine weather which was enjoyed for the first three weeks of the last month. Of Potatoes it is yet too early to form any decided opinion, but there seems reason to suppose that they will not be so productive as they were last season."

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

NOTWITHSTANDING the expected rupture with the American States, produce from those countries does not greatly advance, owing to the general stagnation of trade, and the scarcity of money. Even if that trade should not be stopped by the direct hostility of the respective governments, the loss at which the importations from that country have been forced off, will prevent much more being sent, at least until the present stocks are lessened. In Ireland the sales are slow, and the stocks continue to accumulate. For a view of that trade in England, especially as far as regards the important article of cotton, and also for other information, we refer to the following letter from Liverpool, which gives a full account of the state of their market.

"Towards the close of the last month, our market for British Plantation Sugars began to experience some revival from its former depression. Since that time, the demand has, upon the whole, been very steady, and the prices may now be considered about 1s. a 2s. per cwt. above what were lately current. The fine qualities are still freely purchased by the Grocers; for the low and ordinary descriptions there has also been more inquiry in the last two days, and as the stocks are comparatively small, the Importers are inclined to take a more favourable view of the future state of the market. It has, at the same time, been suggested that, from the failure of the Barley crop, the duties, after the meeting of Parliament, may again be restricted to the use of Sugar, and although this measure is very uncertain, it is, nevertheless, an object which the holders conceive is not to be wholly overlooked.

"OF Coffee a few inconsiderable parcels have been bought for exportation, as well as for home use, but having been very inadequate to take off the quantity offered by auction, the sales were, in most instances, forced off at rather lower prices. Some of the importers of Foreign Sugars, despairing of relief from any other means, have been induced to ship a part of what they held to Lisbon and the Mediterranean. Small lots have also been bought, upon very low terms, for the same destination, but the vent through the medium of those ports which are accessible, is so extremely limited, as not to afford any grounds to expect an improvement in our market, without a more extensive opening. The demand for Jamaica rum is rather improved, and better prices are obtained for that which is of a particular good flavour. The importers of Leeward Island Rum, from the

stock being inconsiderable, look for an advance, so that very few parcels are now offered for sale.

"The demand for Cotton, if fairly estimated, will, we believe, be found as extensive as the means of consumption should lead us to expect; but it still remains, as for some months past, without either spirit or animation. Brazil and Demerara Cottons are the only descriptions that have lately experienced any sensible decline, which seems to have been occasioned chiefly by the large quantities offered by public sale. The holders of American Cottons, however, are become less disposed to press their stocks upon the market, owing to the uncertainty in which our relations with the United States are still involved, and the prospect of a further decrease in our importations, as a necessary consequence of the unnatural footing upon which the trade with this country now stands. Since our last Circular, the quantity of Cotton which has been sold amounts to fully 15,000 bags, being about 7,000 more than what we have received. Our stock is therefore rather diminished, but it may still be calculated at nearly 185,000 bags, which very materially exceeds what was ever held in this market at any former period. Our importations, since the commencement of this year, may be estimated at 161,000 bags, which is about 75,000 less than arrived in the first nine months of 1810; but notwithstanding this important defalcation in the supplies, our stock has received an increase of nearly 45,000 bags. This circumstance, if proofs were wanting, would clearly show to what a considerable extent the Cotton manufactures of this country have suffered, and how sensibly this branch of national prosperity have been injured by the melancholy situation to which the greater part of the commercial world is unfortunately reduced. The accounts from Manchester are deplorable, and will probably soon be worse. Many hundreds of manufacturers have been suddenly thrown out of employment in the last few weeks. Pot and Pearl Ashes continue very dull, and the prices of both are again rather lower. The stock of the prime qualities is very small, but still, from the limited nature of the demand, the period of an improvement is rendered very uncertain.

"For the last month, our Timber market has presented but few changes, and the sales effected have been upon a very limited scale. Pitch Pine is, however, become so exceedingly scarce, in consequence of the good qualities having been bought up for the use of the dock-yards, that a parcel of this description would probably realize 4s. 2d. a 4s. 4d. per foot.

"Recent circumstances have give rise to an opinion that some unfavourable event has occurred in Sicily, which may, in the issue, render our intercourse with that Island, more precarious and uncertain. This impression has not been without its influence upon several articles of Mediterranean produce, and although a sensible advance has been thereby occasioned, yet the absence of any accurate information as to the real state of affairs, has prevented much business from being done."

From another source we learn that at this period of last year, there were 118 American vessels lying in the port of Liverpool, and now only 14. At Belfast, only very few vessels have arrived with cargoes from America. Most of the vessels sailing for America from Belfast and Derry, have come round from the English ports to take out passengers. This trade is overdone, and fewer now are inclined to emigrate. Owing to such an influx of persons, suddenly entering the American ports, many of the emigrants found it difficult to procure situations, and in consequence have suffered severely from want of employment in a strange land. The cotton trade in this country has lately furnished more employment to the weavers, than was expected. The late linen market in Dublin was very bad. Not a buyer attended from London, or Scotland, and only a few from the Northern parts of England. It is said, that not a package was sold for foreign markets. The sales in London are very dull. Yard-wides are out of fashion. Well bleached seven-eight wide linens, neatly put out of hand, with the *foppies* of gold ornaments, ribbons, &c. are principally in demand. There is not a large quantity of linens in the hands of factors, and still less in those of the drapers and shopkeepers. Yet linens keep high in the brown-markets, notwithstanding the slack demand in London and Dublin, and the exclusion, except by stealth, from the ports of the United States.

At page 322 among the documents will be found a curious calculation of the comparative value of gold and silver with bank-paper. It demonstrates the reality of a depreciation, which some still deny. The discount on notes has been 15 to 15½ per cent. but has lately suddenly risen to 20 per cent.—Exchange on London rates about 9½ per cent.

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NATURALISTS' REPORT.

From the 20th of September to the 20th of October.

COMETS, which for so many ages were supposed dread messenger's of the Almighty's wrath to sinful man, and in whose splendid train the superstitious eye beheld destruc-